

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph starting at line 9 on page 6 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Then the hot reaction mass is filtered (15) and the liquid phase (17) leaving the filter is pumped to a distiller for ~~distillating~~distilling (20) where alcohol (21) remaining in the liquid phase is distilled under atmospheric pressure. After the end of the condensed alcohol collection, the distiller liquid is transferred to a decanting (23) tank where it will stay for the required period of time to separate raw glycerin - lower phase - from ethyl esters - upper phase. After being collected, the raw glycerin phase (26) and the alkyl ester phase (27) are directed to distinct neutralization columns (30) and (31), one for each product, columns (30) and (31) being filled with a slightly acidic ion exchange resin. The neutralized alkyl ester corresponds to biodiesel fuel. Typical analyses of the two kinds of biodiesel fuel products obtained in the experiments are listed in Table 2 below.

Please replace the paragraph starting at line 19 on page 6 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

After being recovered from the filter press linings, the solid phase (16) is dried (19) in a vacuum oven at 45°C during ca. 16 h to recover the remaining ethanol (18) still retained in the mass. Then the obtained solid fraction (33), a dried flour, may be sieved (22) in a set of vibrating sieves to separate the finest solids of granulometry of up to 20 mesh Tyler, that is the carbohydrate fraction. This fine fraction (24) will then be submitted to a hydrolysis and fermentation (28) process so as to render possible that after the atmospheric distillation (32) of the remaining residue in the fermenting tank, ~~alcohol~~ethanol (36) may be produced to make up

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the alcohol (10) feed to the transesterification reaction (14b). This step is not required when the dried flour is directed to cattle feeding.